

H. Res. 1090

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

December 6, 2006.

Whereas Ruth Brown passed away on November 17, 2006;

Whereas Ruth Brown, a rhythm and blues singer and songwriter known as Miss Rhythm, was one of Atlantic Records's first recording and performing stars;

Whereas Ruth Brown's elegant voice made her a hit from the 1940s onward with such songs as "So Long" and "Tear-drops from My Eyes";

Whereas Ruth Brown's career spanned the post-World War II era through the Civil Rights Movement to the 21st century, a period which also saw the genre of "race" music move into the American mainstream;

Whereas Ruth Brown helped found the Rhythm and Blues Foundation in 1988 to recognize, promote, and preserve rhythm and blues music;

Whereas Ruth Brown worked with Congress to advance the cause of copyright royalty reform so that rhythm and blues artists could receive deserved copyright royalties from their music;

Whereas Ruth Brown's talent was recognized with a Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical in "Black and Blue" in 1989, a Grammy Award for her album "Blues on Broadway" in 1989, induction into the Rock and Roll

Hall of Fame in 1993, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Blues Foundation in 1999;

Whereas Ruth Brown's autobiography, "Miss Rhythm," received the Ralph J. Gleason Music Book Award; and

Whereas Ruth Brown is survived by 2 sons, 4 siblings, 3 grandchildren, and a multitude of cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and admirers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the life of Ruth Brown;

(2) recognizes Ruth Brown for her efforts toward reforming the copyright royalty system on behalf of rhythm and blues recording artists;

(3) commends Ruth Brown for her success in ensuring that rhythm and blues recording artists would receive deserved copyright royalties; and

(4) expresses its deepest condolences to Ruth Brown's family and friends.

Attest:

Clerk.